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NOTES FROM PACIFIC COAST OBSERVATORIES

Success of the Crocker Eclipse Expedition From the Lick Observatory

A cablegram was received at the Lick Observatory at 9:45 A. M., September 21, reading, "Wallal, W. A. Beautiful conditions. Programme successful. All well. Campbell." An earlier cable had advised us of the safe arrival of the expedition at Wallal, near Broome, in West Australia, with all of their instruments and equipment, amounting to 30 tons, and letters and press notices have described the many courtesies extended to the expedition, and to its members personally, by the Government and the scientific bodies of Australia.

Dr. Campbell has outlined the program of the expedition in the April, 1922, number of these Publications, and repetition is unnecessary, but it may be well to point out that the success noted in the cablegram does not connote confirmation of the Einstein theory. It merely means that the photographic plates required for the test have been secured. Preliminary measures of these plates will be made immediately, perhaps at Broome, but it is doubtful whether any announcement of the results will be made until the definitive measures and reductions have been completed. It is hoped that these results, with those obtained by the other expeditions to Australia and to Christmas Island, of which no news has as yet been received here,[1] may be decisive on the Einstein problem.

According to dispatches in California papers of September 22, the members of the expedition "saw a corona 40,000 miles wide, from which four long streams of light shot forth, one extending 2,500,000 miles from the Sun's center. The duration of the eclipse was four seconds shorter and it began fifteen seconds later than had been predicted." It is to be hoped that this information is more in accord with the facts than the statement in another journal that "the eclipse lasted just five minutes, and for those five minutes of darkened time *millions of dollars were expended,* so important seemed the information they might give to the world of science."

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[1] Later press dispatches state that hazy sky at Christmas Island prevented the German-Dutch Expedition from securing the plates planned to test the Einstein problem.

TOTAL RADIATION FROM R AQUARII

On account of the presence of the nebular lines in the radiation of R *Aquarii* and the observations of nebulosity associated with it there is special interest in comparing its total radiation with that of other stars of class Md. Measures of the total radiation from R *Aquarii* were made with the vacuum thermocouple attached to the 100-inch Hooker telescope on August 26 and 28 under good observing conditions. The visual magnitude was estimated as 9.1. The measured radiometric magnitude was 2.57 and the water-cell absorption 2.2 magnitudes. The heat index was therefore 6.5 magnitudes. The last three quantities, which are corrected to the zenith, have been determined according to the definitions given in the June number of these PUBLICATIONS. These values of heat index and water-cell absorption are typical of advanced Md stars at minimum for which the heat index ranges from 6.5 to 8.3 magnitudes and the water-cell absorption from 1.6 to 2.2 magnitudes for the five stars which have been observed at this phase.

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THREE VARIABLE STARS AND A SUSPECTED NOVA IN THE SPIRAL NEBULA M 33 TRIANGULI

In the course of a search for novæ in M 33 in 1920, I found three faint variable stars in the following positions relative to the principal nucleus of the nebula:

No. 1.	250″ east,	90″ south
No. 2	360″ east,	65″ south
No. 3.	320″ west,	530″ north

Numbers 1 and 2 are involved in bright nebulosity. The approximate photographic magnitudes of comparison stars chosen near the variables were determined by comparison with